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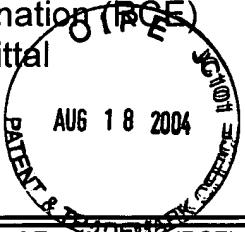
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Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AUG 18 2004



Application Number	09/627,018
Filing Date	July 27, 2000
First Named Inventor	Weber et al.
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	M. Thaler
Attorney Docket Number	70442.1201

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____
ii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment/Reply
ii. Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
iv. Consent of Assignee Form
Other - Statement Under 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b)
- Return Postcard

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
b. Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to
a. Deposit Account No. 08-3264

i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
iii. Other underpayment of required filing fees

b. Check in the amount of \$ 1305.00 enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Name (Print/Type)	Douglas D. Zhang	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,985
Signature	08/18/04		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

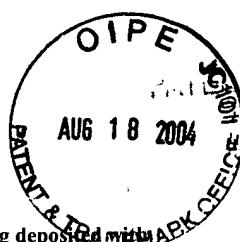
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as express mail with Express Mailing No. EU448545294US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Jason Liu	Date	08/18/04
Signature	/		

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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Jason Liu

8/18/04

Name

Date

2004 SEP 10 PM 3:05 2004 SEP -3 PM 3:03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Weber et al.

Examiner: M. Thaler

Filed: July 27, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3731

Serial No.: 09/627,018

Att'y Ref. No.: 70442.1201

Title: Convertible Rongeur

AMENDMENT

To: Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

09/13/2004 DLINDSEY 00000003 09627018

01 FC:1461	425.00	OP
02 FC:1801	770.00	OP
03 FC:1251	110.00	OP

Sir:

This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 30, 2004, in connection with the above-referenced reissue patent application.

First, Applicants hereby petition the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for reply to the April 30, 2003 Office Action for one month from July 30, 2004 to August 30, 2004. A payment in the amount of \$110 is enclosed to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Hughes Hubbard & Reed Deposit Account No. 08-3264.

Second, please amend the application as follows:

Amendment to the Specification begins on page 2 herein.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 herein.

Remarks begin on page 5 herein.